



# THE ASHBY TOWN PUMP

VOL. 1

JULY, 1944.

NO. 2

With our first issue behind us, we look back with some satisfaction at its reception. The first 100 copies were mailed, the day they were printed, to the boys and girls in the service, and we have already had a few replies expressing their appreciation--some of which appear in this July issue. However, our immediate response came from our neighbors and Townspeople, to the extent that on the second day after the "Town Pump" appeared for sale, we had calls for an extra printing. Our hearts sank momentarily when we heard that a few thought we were trying to raise money to repair the town pump--not that we should discourage such a move. The general reaction was excellent, however, and we hope to continue bringing the news you wish to have. The best insurance of that is for those relatives and friends of servicemen to contact some one on the editing or contributing staff of the "Ashby Town Pump".

## NEW ENGLAND ON A RAMPAGE

In the first issue of the "Town Pump", we spoke of the severe 41-day drought that was worrying us back here at home, ruining crops and depleting water supplies.

In this issue, we can report why good old New England can rightfully claim the title of "the land where all sorts of weather can be had for the asking."

One of the heaviest rainfalls

ever to descend on Ashby came during the week of June 18. A total of 6.7 inches fell during twenty-four hours and almost 10 inches was recorded for the week. This, we understand, is what you people in the tropical war areas have written to us about when you said that--when it rained there it really rained.

Well, anyway, much damage was done in town. Several of the gardens were under water for days and it is a question whether they will ever recover sufficiently to bear crops. Flower gardens suffered, too.

Some of the dirt roads were washed so badly that Rollie Simonds and his crew of road repairers will find plenty to do until snow flies. Considerable damage was done at the Willard Brook Reservation where the dam at Damon Pond was washed and damaged. The float was beyond repair.

Trap Falls, with tons of water rushing over the rocks, was a sight never to be forgotten.

The fire department was called, not to extinguish fires, but to pump out collars and wells.

During one of the many electrical storms, several transformers were blown out. One of them caused the siren to faintly blast out some of its hideous noises, just as the Ashby Band was in the midst of the Star Spangled Banner.

To even things up, the Weather Man threw in three days of intense



THE ASHBY  
TOWN





heat, reaching a climax on Thursday, June twenty-ninth, with the mercury being pushed to 97 degrees in the shade.

#### MAJOR GENERAL EARL E. PARTRIDGE

Readers of the "Town Pump" will be exceedingly proud to learn of the promotion of an Ashby young man to the high office of major general in the United States Army. This is the high honor which has recently been received by Earl E. Partridge, son of William Partridge of the Ashby Tavern.

At present Major General Partridge is associated with Lt. General Jimmie Doolittle in the European war area. In fact they were room mates while stationed in England during the invasion preparations. Much against his desires Earl has been prohibited from making flying trips by Doolittle as he is too valuable on ground planning.

The army career of the Ashby general reads like a story book since he graduated from Ashby high school in June 1917, as the president of the class. He enlisted in the armed forces soon after graduation, going overseas with the 79th division.

On returning, he attended Norwich University for a year being president of the freshmen class. From there he transferred to West Point in 1920. During 1924, his senior year, he was captain of the First Battalion of Cadets. He soon after entered the Army Air Service at San Antonio, Texas. Graduating at Kelly Field, he was transferred back to West Point for one year as teacher of Aeronautics. He next was sent to the Canal Zone where he saw four years service. From here he was returned to Langley Field, Detroit, Michigan.

He was then sent to Maxwell Field, Alabama where he was graduated from the tactical school.

He received his promotion to captain at the officer's training school at Leavenworth, Kansas, and was then returned to Maxwell Field as an instructor.

In 1939, he was commissioned a

Major and sent to Washington on the Chiefs of Staff.

His promotion to colonel came in 1941, to brigadier general in 1943, and to major general in June, 1944. He married Miss Katherine Holder Of Dallas, Texas and they have two daughters, Patricia and Kay.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### ELROY WALKER, 1ST CLASS PETTY OFFICER

As proud as we are of all our Ashby boys and girls in the Service, we feel particularly proud of Elroy Walker. Elroy has, to date, fifteen years of service, entering the Navy in 1929. On the battleship Texas for 7 to 8 years, he worked his way up through 3rd, 2nd, and 1st class radio operator to his present rank. He has seen duty throughout the Pacific including a two year land hitch at American Samoa.

His service in the present conflict has been one of continuous action, and he hasn't been off his present ship for the last three months. He is now on an especially constructed ship that acts as the headquarters for the combined army and navy chiefs of staffs in the big invasions--North Africa, Sicily, Italy and France. It was during one of the early invasions that Elroy intercepted a German radio message calling on the Luftwaffe to sink the flagship at any cost. Elroy's ship immediately headed for sea with an escort of two destroyers, and throughout the night, under a gracious cover fog, they eluded any hits as the German planes roared around them, then as morning broke, American pursuit planes cleared the skies.

On "D" day, a reporter broadcasting from Elroy's ship mentioned standing on deck and seeing nothing but ships of all descriptions in the surrounding twenty-three square miles.

Elroy has not been home in two years, and his wife is living in Norfolk, Virginia. We wish you Godspeed and hope you will both return soon to Ashby.



1000

TO THE  
L. 1860  
THE  
THE  
THE  
THE  
THE

[illegible]

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of contacts. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

1941, 1942  
 1943, 1944  
 1945, 1946  
 1947, 1948  
 1949, 1950  
 1951, 1952  
 1953, 1954  
 1955, 1956  
 1957, 1958  
 1959, 1960  
 1961, 1962  
 1963, 1964  
 1965, 1966  
 1967, 1968  
 1969, 1970  
 1971, 1972  
 1973, 1974  
 1975, 1976  
 1977, 1978  
 1979, 1980  
 1981, 1982  
 1983, 1984  
 1985, 1986  
 1987, 1988  
 1989, 1990  
 1991, 1992  
 1993, 1994  
 1995, 1996  
 1997, 1998  
 1999, 2000  
 2001, 2002  
 2003, 2004  
 2005, 2006  
 2007, 2008  
 2009, 2010  
 2011, 2012  
 2013, 2014  
 2015, 2016  
 2017, 2018  
 2019, 2020  
 2021, 2022  
 2023, 2024  
 2025, 2026  
 2027, 2028  
 2029, 2030  
 2031, 2032  
 2033, 2034  
 2035, 2036  
 2037, 2038  
 2039, 2040  
 2041, 2042  
 2043, 2044  
 2045, 2046  
 2047, 2048  
 2049, 2050  
 2051, 2052  
 2053, 2054  
 2055, 2056  
 2057, 2058  
 2059, 2060  
 2061, 2062  
 2063, 2064  
 2065, 2066  
 2067, 2068  
 2069, 2070  
 2071, 2072  
 2073, 2074  
 2075, 2076  
 2077, 2078  
 2079, 2080  
 2081, 2082  
 2083, 2084  
 2085, 2086  
 2087, 2088  
 2089, 2090  
 2091, 2092  
 2093, 2094  
 2095, 2096  
 2097, 2098  
 2099, 2100  
 2101, 2102  
 2103, 2104  
 2105, 2106  
 2107, 2108  
 2109, 2110  
 2111, 2112  
 2113, 2114  
 2115, 2116  
 2117, 2118  
 2119, 2120  
 2121, 2122  
 2123, 2124  
 2125, 2126  
 2127, 2128  
 2129, 2130  
 2131, 2132  
 2133, 2134  
 2135, 2136  
 2137, 2138  
 2139, 2140  
 2141, 2142  
 2143, 2144  
 2145, 2146  
 2147, 2148  
 2149, 2150  
 2151, 2152  
 2153, 2154  
 2155, 2156  
 2157, 2158  
 2159, 2160  
 2161, 2162  
 2163, 2164  
 2165, 2166  
 2167, 2168  
 2169, 2170  
 2171, 2172  
 2173, 2174  
 2175, 2176  
 2177, 2178  
 2179, 2180  
 2181, 2182  
 2183, 2184  
 2185, 2186  
 2187, 2188  
 2189, 2190  
 2191, 2192  
 2193, 2194  
 2195, 2196  
 2197, 2198  
 2199, 2200  
 2201, 2202  
 2203, 2204  
 2205, 2206  
 2207, 2208  
 2209, 2210  
 2211, 2212  
 2213, 2214  
 2215, 2216  
 2217, 2218  
 2219, 2220  
 2221, 2222  
 2223, 2224  
 2225, 2226  
 2227, 2228  
 2229, 2230  
 2231, 2232  
 2233, 2234  
 2235, 2236  
 2237, 2238  
 2239, 2240  
 2241, 2242  
 2243, 2244  
 2245, 2246  
 2247, 2248  
 2249, 2250  
 2251, 2252  
 2253, 2254  
 2255, 2256  
 2257, 2258  
 2259, 2260  
 2261, 2262  
 2263, 2264  
 2265, 2266  
 2267, 2268  
 2269, 2270  
 2271, 2272  
 2273, 2274  
 2275, 2276  
 2277, 2278  
 2279, 2280  
 2281, 2282  
 2283, 2284  
 2285, 2286  
 2287, 2288  
 2289, 2290  
 2291, 2292  
 2293, 2294  
 2295, 2296  
 2297, 2298  
 2299, 2300  
 2301, 2302  
 2303, 2304  
 2305, 2306  
 2307, 2308  
 2309, 2310  
 2311, 2312  
 2313, 2314  
 2315, 2316  
 2317, 2318  
 2319, 2320  
 2321, 2322  
 2323, 2324  
 2325, 2326  
 2327, 2328  
 2329, 2330  
 2331, 2332  
 2333, 2334  
 2335, 2336  
 2337, 2338  
 2339, 2340  
 2341, 2342  
 2343, 2344  
 2345, 2346  
 2347, 2348  
 2349, 2350  
 2351, 2352  
 2353, 2354  
 2355, 2356  
 2357, 2358  
 2359, 2360  
 2361, 2362  
 2363, 2364  
 2365, 2366  
 2367, 2368  
 2369, 2370  
 2371, 2372  
 2373, 2374  
 2375, 2376  
 2377, 2378  
 2379, 2380  
 2381, 2382  
 2383, 2384  
 2385, 2386  
 2387, 2388  
 2389, 2390  
 2391, 2392  
 2393, 2394  
 2395, 2396  
 2397, 2398  
 2399, 2400  
 2401, 2402  
 2403, 2404  
 2405, 2406  
 2407, 2408  
 2409, 2410  
 2411, 2412  
 2413, 2414  
 2415, 2416  
 2417, 2418  
 2419, 2420  
 2421, 2422  
 2423, 2424  
 2425, 2426  
 2427, 2428  
 2429, 2430  
 2431, 2432  
 2433, 2434  
 2435, 2436  
 2437, 2438  
 2439, 2440  
 2441, 2442  
 2443, 2444  
 2445, 2446  
 2447, 2448  
 2449, 2450  
 2451, 2452  
 2453, 2454  
 2455, 2456  
 2457, 2458  
 2459, 2460  
 2461, 2462  
 2463, 2464  
 2465, 2466  
 2467, 2468  
 2469, 2470  
 2471, 2472  
 2473, 2474  
 2475, 2476  
 2477, 2478  
 2479, 2480  
 2481, 2482  
 2483, 2484  
 2485, 2486

in 1950, as an instructor at the school. He was then promoted to school principal at Brownsville, Texas, and later to the position of captain at the office of the school. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1950.



Purple Heart AwardRED CROSS CALL

Robert Goguen has received the award of the Purple Heart. This medal, the shrapnel taken from the wound in his wrist, and a group of his drawings are on display in the Fitchburg Savings Bank window. These drawings include cartoons, pictures of his buddies, and self-portraits. One of these self-portraits, according to his family, is nearly identical with a photograph taken before he left, and this is quite remarkable as he had never seen this photograph.

Robert, who is now recuperating at a rest camp in Rome, reports that he has been to Vatican City and has seen the Pope. He has also visited several of the beautiful cathedrals and admired the paintings, a real treat to Bob, whom we know has a real interest in art.

BOND DRIVE

The Ashby war bond committee which is sponsoring the drive to obtain subscriptions of \$22,000 from June 12 to July 8 is as follows: Arthur L. Wass, George Seymour, Milton Barrett and Walter E. Woodruff.

The solicitors are Mrs. Florence Cowdroy, Atto Field, Mrs. Otto Louhi, Edie Forse, Gerald Cutting, Kendall Crocker, Jr., Mrs. Alice Hopkins, Mrs. Marilyn Hopkins, Arthur Wass, George Elliott, Waino I. Pormaa, Herman Greenough, Mrs. Caroline Wilkinson, Walter Piper, Arthur Loveland, Richard Goolley, Elmer Mason, Ray Wayrynen, Fred L. Taylor, Mrs. Edith Rackliffe.

The quota of \$22,000 is about twice what it was for the Fourth War Bond drive last February.

The drive to raise its quota received a flying start when Fred L. Taylor and Atto Field reported with nearly \$4,000 subscribed in their districts. Although there is much work to be done by the solicitors before the quota is reached, early returns are very encouraging.

As we go to press, the total sales have reached 13,500 dollars with the certainty that the quota will be reached.

Mrs. Ernest E. Hopkins, supervisor of the Red Cross surgical dressings group, has received an emergency call to increase the number of dressings prepared by the group each week. The American Red Cross has been asked to send 100,000,000 bandages each month to the fighting areas.

The Red Cross surgical dressings group has made 11,800 dressings in the month of June. This is a splendid record considering the small number of women in the group. Mrs. Carl Ingerson has loaned an extension table for surgical dressings. The Red Cross sewing group has an assignment of 100 bags, 20 sets of pajamas, and 10 hospital robes to be made as soon as possible.

Mrs. Treworgy has received more Red Cross yarn which means that the knitters of Ashby must get to work at once. The call for tubular scarfs has come in.

\*\*\*\*\*

The first issue of the "Town Pump" was very well received by the townspeople who seemed eager to share what was going over to the "boys". We charged a small fee to cover the expense of getting the paper out and mailing, and the response was very encouraging. There was an element of humor as well, when one small boy reported to his mother that "They are selling chances on the Town Pump in both of the stores, do you want any? But what would you do with the Town Pump if you won it? Another seemed to think that the Town Pump was out of order and money was being raised in this way to repair it.

\*\*\*\*\*

The following is the first letter received by the editing staff in response to our first issue:

"Dear Editor and Staff of the Ashby Town Pump:"

I wish to take this opportunity to let you know that I have received



[Faint, illegible text covering the entire page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]



ved the first copy of your newsletter-The Ashby Town Pump. Forgive me for not answering sooner, but as they say, "better late than never". I enjoyed the letter so much. The news from home and the other boys and girls in the Service was of great interest and pleasure. I wish I really could express better in words what I feel inside, but that is hard for me to do. It is nice to know what the different ones are doing and where they are. It will keep us in touch with each other although we are scattered in every corner of the globe. I am sure those who are still "out there" will get a great lift in receiving and reading the letter. I know, with the little experience which I have had being out there away from home, how much a letter from home folks means. The letter is great and I am looking forward to the next issue. I thank the contributing committee and all the rest who made this letter possible. Thanks a lot. Sincerely,

Warren L. Cutting

LT. COMMANDER CARL M. FELLOWS

Perhaps many of you remember Carl Fellows who lived on Main Street for two years. Carl, now a Lt. Commander, has command of a brand new destroyer escort--the "S.S. LaPrade"--a beautiful fighting ship with a complement of 200 men. Carl, a graduate of Annapolis returned to active service in June, 1941, and has since been on continuous Atlantic and Caribbean convoy and anti-submarine service. He is now headed for the big show in the Pacific and we know his exploits will some day fill a book.

For the first time since last October, the Hansen boys met--and quite by accident. Andy is on convoy duty and Tom is on patrol duty in the Gulf of Mexico. As Andy came off his boat in Key West, he was amazed to see Tom's boat before him. Needless to say, he wasted no time in locating his brother, and the two boys spent an enjoyable half-hour together in the middle of the night as their

time was limited because Andy had to go out to sea again.

Lt. Ruth Robbins Lafley and Lt. Aura Louhi have recently been home on furlough, taking a well earned rest from their duties as Army dieticians.

Kenneth Tefft, Mrs. Myron Harris's son is a machinist mate 3rd class with the Seabees at Pearl Harbor. He is the official photographer for his battalion. You will all remember that he was Captain of the basketball team while at Ashby High.

Paul Heikala has been home on furlough from Williamstown. John Damon was home too, but he and Paul missed spending their furlough together by just one day. However, John was able to corral a car, and with some friends drove to Williamstown to see Paul.

In a letter of June 16th, Chaplain Joseph T. Riley wrote to Mr. and Mrs. Piper, parents of Sgt. "Bud"----- I know well your son Sgt. Robert E. Piper, of Hdq. Battery, 221st F.A. Bn.. As Protestant Chaplain to the entire Division Artillery his particular battery is part of my Parish. Sgt. Piper is a faithful attendant in our religious services and is leading a fine life in the service of his country. I know you will want to know that he appears to be in the best of health and in very good spirits.

The July issue of the Reader's Digest published an article entitled "Farming at the Front". It tells of the Marines pinching themselves in chow line to be sure they were awake. They see the messmen dishing out fresh corn on the cob--15000 ears of golden Bantam--5000 acres under cultivation from Guadalcanal to Bougainville. Total yield this year was 15000 tons and banana yield is on the way there. And this is what we hear from our own Sgt. Bud Piper--a letter written June 10th. "We planted a large garden. We have had lettuce, cucumbers, green peppers, tomatoes,







okra. Carrots and beets and what have-you on the way. Darn nice to get things out of your own garden."

June Brewer ( John, Jr.) made a flying visit to Ashby, June 11th. We noticed another stripe has been added. Good work, "June".

Mrs. Richard Wilkinson was pleasantly surprised to receive a picture of her husband, taken in Italy.

John C. Woodruff of Keesler Field, Miss., after taking three weeks of intensive examinations, both physical and mental, was accepted in the Cadet training program. He will have six weeks of intensive training in Basic before going on to further training. They are called the PAC'S. Some qualify as pilots, some as navigators, and others as bombardiers.

Bill Hemlin is our 100th boy to enter the service. He was recently sworn into the Navy and will soon report to duty.

We hear that Wallace Elliott and Bob Holmes have met somewhere in England.

One of our latest flashes is that, unbeknown to each other, both Warren and Clarence Elliott are now in France.

Sgt. Eino Malm also has written that he is now in Hawaii.

George Helander is home on furlough from Langley Field, Virginia, to help harvest the hay crop. He isn't sure but that it will be done from a boat after all the rain we have had recently.

Arnold Piper, Sl/C, now stationed at the Naval air base at Pensacola, Florida, is a member of the loop leading baseball club. The league is comprised of five teams, one for each of the surrounding air fields. Arnie, now playing in the outfield, has been hitting the "olo apple", recently getting four hits in five times at bat, a real feat

considering the league includes many big league players. His team won 11 straight games before losing to Ted Williams' Bronson-Field team. Arnie's team is now striving for the pennant for it means a trip to Corpus Christi, Texas, for a five game series.

Sgt. Paavo Haapala, with the Army Air Corps, has written home from England and said he is fine, and very, very busy.

Kenneth Tefft writes that he has much enjoyed the bag and contents which the Red Cross furnished him. These bags are like those that our local Red Cross serving group has been making.

Sgt. Everett Treworgy was in town Sunday June 11th. Ev says, and we quote, "The army still sends me to school. Guess they consider me the square peg in a round hole. They could make me a civilian again, but I suppose the thought hasn't occurred to my superiors-- but it has to me. From Maine to Virginia is quite a change, but I got used to moving around."

John Damon, S 2/C has been transferred from Bainbridge, Md. to the aviation electrician school at Jacksonville, Florida.

Shirley E. Wass, Hospital Apprentice First Class( H.A.1/C ) has completed her training at the Hospital Corps School (W.R.), National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland and has been assigned to the Chelsea Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Massachusetts for further training.

After 2½ years in the South Pacific, Ensign Walter J. Parder has recently been on leave at his home in San Bernadine, Cal.

Raymond Heywood has completed his basic training at Sampson, N.Y. He is now attending a motor torpedo school at Melville, R.I. Raymond writes he appreciated the Town Pump very much.







We have been privileged to read a fine letter from Lt. Col. John R. Crossen in which he expresses appreciation of Rodney Caton whom he calls "an important member of this organization". He goes on to say how much is being done for the men in the service in the way of recreation, entertainment, good food and medical care. It is good to know these things straight from headquarters, and that everything possible is being done for those on the active fronts. Rodney has been in New Georgia and New Guinea for several months.

We are very pleased to learn of the promotion of another one of Ashby's young men. Arthur Foreman, whom we all know as "Fuzzy", recently received his aviation machinists mate second class ( AMM2/C ) rating. Congratulations to you, Arthur! Arthur has been stationed in Hawaii for about 18 months.

A recent letter received by Everett Rackliffe's family told of great enjoyment he received on a picnic sponsored by the Chicago Servicemen's Center. Everett said that the food was plentiful and good, it reminded him of the Ashby Church Suppers.

Robert Varney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Linne Varney and Edwin Walker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Walker have been sworn into the Merchant Marine and are awaiting orders to report.

We have a few corrections to make. In our last issue we stated that Chet Hopkins had been promoted to Chief Navigator. It should have been Chief Quartermaster. Also we should have mentioned that there are 5 girls in the Service.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

Edwin Tiilikkala	August 1
Ralph Curran	August 7
Raymond Wright	August 16
Arnold Piper	August 22

#### \*\*\* AROUND TOWN \*\*\*

At the annual town meeting last March, it was voted to appoint a veterans rehabilitation committee. This committee consists of Edwin J. Lyman, George W. Seymour, Waino I. Pernaa, Milton Barrett and Walter E. Woodruff.

The purpose of this committee is to work, in cooperation with a state committee, in assisting war veterans to re-establish themselves in civilian life. We want all our Ashby war heroes to know that we are planning to do what we can to assist them when they return to their homes.

Walter Gibson, our own "Gippy" is surely doing his part in keeping up the home front morale. His orchestra has been booked since May and until October. He is entertaining the whirlers at Appleton Academy, New Ipswich, Fort Pond, North Leominster, Societies in Templeton and even as far as Troy N.H. Gippy tells us of his exciting and dangerous trip home from Troy on the night of the heavy rainstorm. His party had proceeded very cautious of road washouts, and traveled safely until they reached Stearus Meadow at Swallow Hill. There the water was gushing over the road, but into it they drove and suddenly the car sank to the axles. Fortunately, aid was close at hand. The road was being patrolled by the Rindge Police and the State Highway Department, and manpower was soon available to lift the car out of the washout and then, Gippy said that the water was so swift and deep that they d-r-i-f-t-e-d forward along the road to where they could proceed.

Camp Middlesex, the 4-H Club Camp in Ashby, opened its season with a very large enrollment having over 40 girls each week. Five weeks of the summer are to be devoted to the girls and three weeks to the boys, due to the fact that the boys are needed at home to help with the farm work.







Because of a new water system piped from the brook, and a new parking place for visitors ( Loslie Akers old garden ), the camp is better equipped to operate than before. A face lifting, which was done both inside and out, has given the camp a new zest and enthusiasm. All of the Directors are new, most of the older ones have gone on to new fields. Mr. Erickson will have charge of the boys camp as usual. Among those who helped to get the opening of the camp on its way were: Allston Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Woodruff, and Mrs. Reed from Lincoln.

Notwithstanding that it is very difficult to get enough musicians for a band during these war years, Fred Bernhardt, Sr., who so ably has led the Ashby Military Band since 1931, has, after much hard work, started the summer season with 35 members. The management has arranged a series of nine concerts, the first being presented June 23, surviving a heavy rainstorm.

At each Band Concert, chances are sold on a \$ 25.00 War Bond, and the money in excess of cost price helps defray the Band's expenses. The first two lucky holders have been Miss Helen Bailey and Mr. Edwin Lord, Jr.

The Ashby Band will have acquired its youngest member when Billy Seymour becomes proficient enough to play at band concerts. At the moment Billy is merely practicing with the band, having just begun his clarinet lessons with Dorothy Wilder.

Mr. and Mrs. John Rajala, Fitchburg state road, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Gwendolyn H. Rajala, to Ensign Edmund L. Langille, USNR, son of Mrs. Winifred Blanch, of Greenville, N.H. Gwen attended the Ashby schools and is now employed in the office of the Swanson Baking Co., Fitchburg.

#### BIRTHS

A daughter, Louis Roberta, to Mr. & Mrs. Eino V. Wiita, Clark Road.  
A son to Cpl. and Mrs. Philip Ouellette (Grace Keyes) of Heywood Road.

#### MARRIAGES

June 9, 1944 at New Ipswich:

Rena M. Bennett of Ashby, Mass. to Pvt. Charles Willis Bennett of Fitchburg, Mass.

Miss Bennett graduated from the Ashby High School, May 26, 1944. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Bennett of Erickson Road.

Miss Irja Hykkyri, for nine years a member of the Lyman school faculty until she resigned to accept a position in a larger school, is making good progress in her fight to regain her health, which failed her after her years of extremely successful teaching. She is receiving treatment at the Middlesex County Tuberculosis hospital at Waltham. Many members of the armed forces will remember Miss Hykkyri as the teacher who always worked so hard to make their lessons mean so much. A speedy recovery to her!

Three new members of the Lyman School faculty have been engaged for the school year beginning in September. They are: Miss Mario Boulay of Loominster high school and Fitchburg Teachers College, class of 1944. She will replace Miss Elizabeth Kirkpatrick as teacher of English, language and social science.

Miss Dorothy Hughes of Fitchburg, a graduate of St. Bernard's high school class of 1940, and Fitchburg State Teachers College, class of 1944. She was president of the dramatic club at college. She will replace Mrs. Dorothy C. Lambert as teacher of junior high mathematics, science, English and history.

Miss Elizabeth Hannant of Winchendon, a graduate of Fitchburg State Teachers college, class of 1944, will replace Mrs. Francis Gould as teacher of the 5th and 6th grades.

At the last meeting of Nemo-set Robakah Lodge, a Memorial Service for the 41 deceased members of the Lodge was conducted by the Noble Grand, Martha Rack-



— 10 —

1. 1990

6

6

10

—C. . . . .

10

100



liffe and members.

President's Night will be observed by Nemoset Rebekah Lodge on Friday, June 30th. Supper will be served in the Congregational Vestry prior to the meeting at 8 o'clock. An entertainment will be held at 8 o'clock.

Harold V. Doolittle has sold his store, known for many years as the Bingham Store, to Wilfred Bedard of Fitchburg. It is understood that the Doolittle family will move to Arizona as soon as the owner assumes possession and household goods are disposed of. We will be sorry to lose the Doolittles as they have always been active in making Ashby a better place in which to live. Our best wishes to both they and the Bedards!

An auction, held at the former home of the Weatherbee sisters on lower Main Street, attracted one of the largest crowds known in Ashby. A drizzle did not dampen the spirits of the auctioneer, Levi Lashua, or the bidding ability of the assembled throng. It is reputed that the fine collection of furniture and oddments carried the total sales for the two days to \$ 5,500. There were times during the auction when Levi had to pound down a couple of gavels in order to quiet the crowd so the bids of timid customers could be heard.

Mrs. Harold White, the supervisor of music in the Ashby school, recently underwent a knee operation at Burbank Hospital. She is now resting comfortably at home.

Rev. Everett S. Troworgy began his annual vacation after his service of July 2. It will extend until the first of September. The church will be closed during that period.

The Arthur Willard home on Main St. has been sold to Mr. and Mrs. Ware of Andover, Mass. Mr. Ware is a brother of Mrs. Carl Foster.

Mr. & Mrs. Franklyn Ingerson and family have moved into their new home on West Main Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Rackliffe celebrated their 28th wedding anniversary at their home recently.

The Hoffmans returning to Ashby for another summer at their home, "Top-of-the-Hill", were accorded an exciting reception, for not five minutes after their arrival, Riggie, their cocker spaniel, fell in the well. Neighborly Mr. Thibault came to the rescue just in time to pull the half frozen puppy out of the water.

\*\*\*\*\*

We thoughtlessly forgot to mention in our first issue that Mrs. Lydia Evans, Mrs. Phyllis Munroe, and Mrs. Walter Piper are on the contributing staff.

Mrs. Martha Foster, we are proud to say, has joined the Editorial Staff, and Genora Arsenault and Ruth Cheney are doing Yeomen's work in typing the first drafts.

The following is a partial list of past or present residents of Ashby serving in the Armed Forces of the U.S.A.:

John Arenius  
Blair Arsenault  
John Bailey, Jr.  
Francis Bennett  
Garnet Bennett  
Marjorie Bennett  
\* Richard Bennett  
Dorothy Bernhardt  
Lewis Berry, Jr.  
Roderick Brooks  
Rodney Caton  
Addison Clark  
Clifford Creighton  
Ralph Curran  
James Curran  
Warren Cutting  
John Damon  
Clarence Elliott  
Wallace Elliott  
Warren Elliott  
Michael Enright  
William Enright  
Fred Erickson  
Leon Evans  
John Flinkstrom  
Walter Flinkstrom  
Arthur Foresman, Jr.  
Oscar Fors







## NEW ARRIVALS

A daughter to Mr. & Mrs. Charles Caton, formerly of Ashby. She has been named Alice Marie Caton.

## DEATHS

Mrs. Daniel J. Gillis  
Mrs. Julia (Kelleher) Gillis, 78 widow of Daniel J. Gillis died at her home in Fitchburg after a long illness. She was born in Ashby and lived here until two years ago. She is survived by a son, Andrew P. Gillis and a sister, Miss Katherine E. Kelleher of Fitchburg and three grandchildren. Burial was in St. Bernard's Cemetery, Fitchburg.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mrs. Ida Farmer  
Mrs. Ida (Bacon) Farmer, 83, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Everett S. Treworgy, after a long illness. She was a resident of Gouverneur, N.Y. until she came here to live with her daughter last August. The funeral and burial was held in Gouverneur, N.Y.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sidney A. Walker  
Sidney A. Walker, 39, died suddenly at his home on West Main Street on October 20. He was born in Ashby, son of the late Edwin and Bertha Walker and for several years has been employed at the Ashby Stock Farms.

He is survived by two brothers, Wallace Walker of Ashby and Elroy L. Walker, Chief Yeoman in the U.S. Navy.

The funeral was held in the Congregational Church October 23 at 1:30 P.M. Burial was in Glenwood Cemetery. Rev. Herbert Walker of Hampton, N.H., uncle of the deceased officiated.

X X X X X X X X X

The Town Pump Mail Box:

From Sgt. Eddie Tiilikkala:

9.

"I received my third issue of the Town Pump and I think it is the tops. It is very interesting to read about the others in service from Ashby, and to find out how they are as well as where they are. The home town news is also very interesting. I want to thank everyone in any way connected with the success of the Town Pump for making it possible for us in the service to get it."

Warren Elliott writes that his outfit was the first to go in- to Paris. He sends a picture of the first vehicle to reach Paris, in which he was riding. Too bad we can't reprint the picture for you. He says Paris is a beautiful city.

Frances Bennett has been promoted from Seaman to Fireman first class. He receives the Town Pump regularly and thinks it becomes more interesting with each succeeding issue.

A letter from Shirley Wass says in part: "The latest copy of the Town Pump has just arrived and I want to tell the committee just how much it means to me. Although I am stationed near home, every letter and bit news from home means a lot.

I believe the most important thing life in the service is going to teach us is the appreciation of our homes and friends. They will certainly mean a lot more to us when we get back again.

At present I am under instruction in the laboratory on a machine that detects any organic trouble in the brain. It is quite new and I find it very interesting. Again, many thanks for the paper. It means a lot of work and I do appreciate it, and I know the rest of the boys and girls do, too."

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL OF YOU!



daughter to Mr. & Mrs.  
ston, formerly of Ashby.  
son named John.

"I received my third issue of the Town Pump and I think it is the best. It is very interesting to read about the others in service from Africa, and how they are doing. I am glad to hear that you want to be connected with the Town Pump for the future for us in the future."

Mr. [redacted] writes that  
his [redacted] was the first to go to  
the [redacted] in [redacted]  
the [redacted] of [redacted]  
in [redacted] in [redacted]  
we can [redacted] the picture for  
you. [redacted] is a beautiful  
city.

more Bennett has been  
moved from Boston to  
class. He receives the  
negatively and thinks it  
more interesting with each  
the fact.

the boys and girls do, too." I know the rest of means a lot of work and I do appreciate it very much for the paper. It is quite new and I find it very interesting. Again, that creates any organic trouble in the laboratory on a machine I am under instruction as what I need back again. Will it really mean a lot more to of our friends and friends. They to term is the appreciation thing in the service is going to have the most important a lot.

Mrs. Ida T. Barrett  
Mrs. Ida (Bacon) Barrett, 38, died  
at the home of her daughter, Mrs.  
Everett S. Treworthy, after a long  
illness. She was a resident of  
Governor, N.Y. until she came  
here to live with her daughter.  
The funeral  
last August. The funeral  
parade was held in Governor,  
N.Y.

of the deceased officiated. Walker, Hampton, N.H., and Glenwood Cemetery. Rev. Bert 23 at 1:30 P.M. Burial was in Congregational Church October The funeral was held in the man in the U.S. Navy. and Eiray I. Walker, Chief Yeoman there, Alice Walker of Ashby. He is survived by two brothers at the Ashby Stock Farms. several years has been employed Edwin and Martha Walker and for born in Ashby, son of the late Street on October 20. He was daily in his home on West Main Sidney A. Walker, 39, died suddenly. Walker

X X X X X X X X X

THE TOWN FOUNDED 1841. BOX 1

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

WILLIAM THURGOOD